(x) Principles contained in the Biodiversity Act, 2002 should be applied to coastal bio-resources management.

(xi) Regeneration of mangrove wetlands, coral reefs, seagrass beds as well as coastal forestry and agro forestry will confer both short and long term ecological and livelihood benefits.

(xii) In view of the severe loss of life and livelihood due to Tsunami, short term commercial interest should not be allowed to undermine the ecological security of our coastal areas.

(d) An in-depth examination of the recommendations contained in the Report would be required before taking any action.

Swaminathan Committee on CRZ norms

1908. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Swaminathan Committee examining the existing CRZ norms has considered the post Tsunami scenario of environment and ecology along the nation's coastline;

(b) whether some Tsunami affected States have called for more stringent CRZ regulations; and

(c) whether any time-frame has been given to the Swaminathan Committee to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Although some news items have appeared stating that the coastal States and Union Territories affected by Tsunami have requested for more stringent Coastal Regulation Zone Guidelines, however, no communication has been received by Ministry of Environment & Forests from these States/ Union Territories in this regard.

(c) The Report of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Committee was received by the Government on 14.2.2005.